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Docket No. 49673

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE *#10*

In re application of: Proost et al.

Serial No.: 09/537,859

Examiner: L. Gansheroff

Filed: March 28, 2000

Group Art Unit: 1636

For: AMINO-TERMINALLY TRUNCATED MCP-2 AS CHEMOKINE
ANTAGONIST

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicants are in receipt of the Restriction Requirement dated April 19, 2001 for the above-referenced application.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement, particularly for consideration of Groups I, III and IV, at this time, as the Groups are defined in the Restriction Requirement. It is believed that multiple Groups could be searched and examined together without undue burden. For example, Groups III and IV are each dependent from claims of Group I. Additionally, Groups III and IV each have common classification at both the class and sub-class level.

Further, consideration of multiple Groups, at this time, will save considerable time and expense for both Applicants and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

For such reasons, examination of Groups I, III and IV, at this time, is respectfully requested.

Nevertheless, to provide a complete response, Applicants elect Group I, directed to claims 1-4 and 9, as that Group is defined in the Restriction Requirement.

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Early consideration and allowance of the application is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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